I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office, facsimile no. (793) 872-9306, on the date

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Dated: June 25, 2004

Signature

Docket No.: 146712006500

(PATENT)

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In re Patent Application of: Troy Michael HERNDON et al.

Application No.: 10/087,116

Art Unit: 2651

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Filed: March 1, 2002

Examiner: A. L. Sniezek

For: SELECTIVELY STIFF FDB BEARING FOR

BETTER SERVO WRITE

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

MS Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Official Action mailed March 25, 2004 (Paper No. 6), having a threemonth shortened statutory period for response set to expire on June 25, 2004, the Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following amendments and remarks.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 5 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 9 of this paper.

sf-1732140

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Docket No.: 146712006500

Application No.: 10/087,116

Amendments to the Abstract being on page 10 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 11 of this paper.